(d) whether it is a fact that entrepreneurs face a lot of problems with IREDA; and

(e) the steps proposed to improve and streamline IREDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) IREDA is an ISO 9001: 2000 certified company which enters into an annual Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with this Ministry. Customer satisfaction, including quality of services forms a part of the MoU. The MoU rating of IREDA for 2005-06 was 'Good'. MoU targets are periodically monitored and corrective action, if required, taken.

Setting up of technology centres in the country

649. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign any MoU with foreign countries for setting up of technology centres in the country to tap non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries with which the agreement is expected to be finalized; and

(c) how far the country/States shall be benefited due to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

New hydel power policy

650. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring out a new hydel power policy to ensure time-bound development of hydro-electric projects and attract increased private sector investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of hydel-electric generation in the backward Orissa; and

(d) the action plan of Government under the new policy to speed up its development in the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The policy on Hydro Power Development 1998, the Electricity Act, 2003, the Electricity Policy, 2005, the National Policy on Resettlement & Rehabilitation, 2003, the Environment Protection Act, 1986, the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 1994, the National Water Policy, 2002 and Revised EIA Notification 2006 provide the basic framework for the development of hydro power.

However, keeping in view the unique problems associated with hydro projects, a suggestion is under examination that the exemption from tariff based bidding available to the public sector under Clause 5.1 of Tariff Policy, 2006 of Government of India till January, 2011 may also be extended to the private sector.

(c) At present, six hydroelectric schemes aggregating to about 1,860 MW are in operation and one hydroelectric scheme namely Balimela Extension (150MW) is under construction in the State of Orissa. Further, one scheme namely the Balimela Dam Toe Power House (60MW) in the State sector has been sanctioned and another scheme namely, Jalaput Dam Toe (18MW) in the private sector has been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority. In addition, one scheme namely, Sindol (300 MW) is under survey and investigation by Orissa Hydro Power Corporation.

(d) Does not arise.

Hydel projects in private sector

†651. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private sector companies are carrying

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.